

Torrance, California  
June 24, 1958

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 8:00 P. M. Tuesday, June 24, 1958, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None. City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Captain D. F. Mahoney led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Wendell Hook of the Walteria Methodist Church opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Drale said he would like to change his vote on the motion which carried last week to pay the City's Commissioners a token payment of \$10 per meeting, not to exceed \$20 per month. He asked to have the Minutes of that meeting corrected to show that he wished to vote 'No' on the motion.

Mayor Isen said the correction would not be in order, as the Minutes carried the vote correctly. He asked that Councilman Drale bring this up under Oral Communications, asking for reconsideration of the motion.

Mayor Isen had not had time to read the Minutes of the June 17 meeting of the Council, and asked to have action on them withheld until he had done so.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

BIDS:

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for the opening of: Bids on Pound Service.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the Affidavit of Publication of Notice to Bidders.

Councilman Benstead moved this be received and filed. ABSENT: Motion ordered carried, as there were no objections.

Councilman Jahn left the meeting at 8:05 P. M.

City Manager Stevens opened, and City Clerk Bartlett read, the Bids summarized here:

<u>BIDDER:</u>	<u>ALTERNATE BID ON:</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE BID:</u>
Bernice D. Blonk	(a)	90% to Bidder, 10%
20362 Earl Street	(b)	to City
Torrance, California.	(c)	No bid
		No bid
Los Angeles Society for the	(a)	90% to Bidder, 10%
Prevention of Cruelty to	(b)	to City
Animals and Southern California	(c)	100% to Bidder, 0%
Humane Society		to City
5026 W. Jefferson Blvd.	(c)	90% to Bidder, 10%
Los Angeles 16, Calif.		to City.

Councilman Benstead moved to refer the bids to the City Manager for study and recommendation.

Councilman Jahn returned to the meeting at 8:07 P. M.

Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, no objections, so ordered.

2. Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for the opening of: Bids in Improvement of Hawthorne Blvd. from Sepulveda to Carson.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the Affidavit of Publication of Notice to Contractors.

There were no objections, and this was accepted and ordered filed.

Councilman Drale asked if this Boulevard is not a State Highway.

The City Manager replied that it is, and that the Del Amo Shopping Center and the State are sharing the cost of this, and it will cost the City nothing, but we are doing the engineering of this and handling the bids.

City Manager Stevens opened, and the City Clerk read, the bids summarized here. The City Attorney checked the bonds as the bids were opened to ensure their correctness in amount and form.

<u>BIDDER:</u>	<u>BOND:</u>	<u>TOTAL BID:</u>
S. A. Cummings Cont. Corp., 821 West Rosecrans Ave. Compton, Calif.	10% of Amt. Bid	\$13,244.80
Progressive Paving 18400 So. Broadway Gardena, Calif.	10% of Amt. Bid	\$15,696.70
Contractors Asphalt Sales Box 73 Redondo Beach, California.	10% of Amt. Bid	\$10,910.50
Oswald Bros. Co. 366 E. 58th St. Los Angeles 11, Calif.	10% of Amt. Bid	\$13,451.08
Griffith Co. 1060 So. Broadway Los Angeles 15 Calif.	\$2,000 Bond	\$15,188.80
Warren-Southwest, Inc. Box 419 Torrance, California;	10% of Amt. Bid	\$14,395.90

Councilman Jahn moved to refer these bids to the City Manager for study and recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, no objections, so ordered.

#### HEARINGS:

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for the: Second Budget Hearing.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Manager if a communication had been received regarding the overpass walkway at South High School. City Engineer Bishop had the letter.

Mayor Isen asked if the letter had been before the School Board.

Mrs. Sokoloff spoke from the audience, and said it had.

Councilman Jahn thought it had been received here in time to be on the Agenda, and said he wanted it to be considered tonight.

Mr. Al Salcido, representing the Firemen and Policemen, spoke of the importance of wage and fringe benefit increases for the City's employees. He recalled his former appearance here and his report to the

Council on what he thought was the under-manned condition of both the departments he was speaking for. He quoted from the recommendations of the International City Manager's Association report on the number of firemen and policemen which they consider desirable per thousand residents, and said we do not have that many. He quoted salaries paid by comparable cities in the County, and said only one of them pays their firemen less. He reported that Chief Bennett has provided in his budget for shooting pay for policemen this year, and he complimented both Police Chief Bennett and Fire Chief Benner on their administration of small departments. Mr. Salcido referred to a meeting held last Monday night by the Council with the City Manager and which the Mayor had told him was a closed meeting; he said he had been told later that it was not a closed meeting.

Mayor Isen explained that the meeting had been called by the City Manager to discuss personnel matters, and that he had understood it was to be a closed meeting. However, the door had been opened to the conference room.

Mr. Salcido said he would like to talk to the Council about wages and fringe benefits, and that he had asked the City Manager's secretary to arrange such a meeting for him but she had not been able to do so. He offered to answer any questions from the Council.

Mr. Salcido said he had been told recently that there was only one police car on duty at the time of a recent riot, due to man shortage.

Councilman Jahn asked Asst. Chief of Police Porter if that was true, and Mr. Porter said it was not.

Asst. Chief Porter said that car was the only one on duty in the area of Mr. Salcido's house at that time.

Mr. Jerry Holloman, President of the Fire Fighters Local, asked to have a conference with the Council on the problems of the firemen before the budget is adopted.

Mayor Isen said that is why this Hearing is being held.

Mrs. Sokoloff asked if this was the time for her to discuss the matter of funds for an overpass to the South High School with the Council.

Mayor Isen said it would be as soon as the wage discussion was completed.

Mr. Jonathan Dunmeyer, representing the City's miscellaneous employees' union, spoke to the Council in favor of an increase in wage rates and fringe benefits.

Mr. Hugh McCall, of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the union represented by Mr. Dunmeyer, spoke to the Council in support of the requests for consideration of salary increases.

Councilman Beasley told the audience that he, like the other Councilmen, is proud of the job being done by our City employees. He believed the Council was doing all they could in order to raise the standard of living the City employees have. At the present time, he said the exact income of the City for the next year is not known, and it will not be until the early part of August.

Councilman Beasley moved to refer the matter of longevity pay to the City Manager so he could give the Council an estimate of what it would cost, the manner in which it could be paid, to whom it would be paid, and the number of such employees, so the Council could pass on it when they know the amount of income the City will have.

Councilman Benstead said he would second that motion if Councilman Beasley would add that the City Manager give the Council at the same time a comparison of a raise for all City employees.

Councilman Beasley accepted the amendment to his motion, saying he wanted a comparison. He stated the Council did not know how many employees the longevity would affect, on what basis, or how much money it will cost or how much money the City will have. He thought anything the Council does should be retroactive to July 1, 1958.

Councilman Bradford felt the City had the money right now to make longevity pay effective now, and he said he would like to see it start at the 5th year of employment.

Councilman Benstead thought it was for employees in the Police and Fire Departments only, and affects only the lower brackets.

Mr. Salcido stated he had discussed this with the City Manager who had agreed the figures he submitted were very close. He said this would cost \$55,000 if it is to be paid to all City employees with 5 years or more of service.

Councilman Benstead had a short report on this matter as it is handled in the Los Angeles Police Department.

Councilman Beasley suggested that the City Manager work out a report on this, saying Mr. Stevens knows generally the feeling of the Council.

Mayor Isen told Mr. Salcido and Mr. Holloman they could help by compiling their figures and getting a copy to each Councilman. He said the statistics given by Mr. Dunmeyer should be included. The City Manager could then check those figures for accuracy.

Councilman Jahn asked to know specifically what the motion meant, and Councilman Beasley said it asked for a report from the City Manager, giving the Council the basis for longevity pay, how it could be paid, how much it would cost, how many employees would be involved and whether we could carry it out without raising taxes.

Councilman Jahn asked if the motion was made to get information. Councilman Beasley assumed that if the Council intended to take time to discuss this and figure it out, it would be because they felt the idea had merit.

Councilman Jahn did not agree, saying he did want the information and a chance to consider it first.

Councilman Beasley stated his motion had no implications other than it stated.

Councilman Blount asked to have the motion read, and it was.

Councilman Drale asked the City Manager if we had any information at this time to designate what it would cost to give longevity pay to all employees of the City.

The City Manager said he did not know how many people this would affect, or what was meant by 'all' City employees.

Councilman Drale thought this should be set up on 5, 10, 15, and 20 years; he would be in favor of giving it those people who had been here 5 years or longer. He said employees get raises at the time of the 2nd and 3rd steps of their classification, so he felt there should be something at the end of 5 years too.

Mayor Isen asked when the Budget would be finally adopted.

The City Manager said an estimated Budget must be adopted tonight, then in August when we have the final information on the taxes the Budget is adopted.

Mayor Isen asked if these matters could be finally resolved at that time, and the City Manager said they could.

Mayor Isen explained to the people present that we do not know at this time the exact income of the City for the next year. He expressed his personal appreciation of the work done by all the City employees, including the Police and Firemen. He felt all should be treated equally. He expressed his hope that the City Manager, in preparing the Tentative Budget being considered tonight, had underestimated the income of the City for the next year. He said the Council is interested in being loyal to the employees and at the same time in keeping the tax rate as low as possible. He thought the motion would serve the purpose of getting information the Council wants. He hoped that in August, when the income of the City was known, the tax rate could be set, and the matter of pay to City employees would be considered. In the meantime, the City Manager would compile the information and give it to the Council. He believed the City employees had been fairly treated by the Council in the past.



Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Blount said he had voted 'No' on this because he thought the Council should advise the City Manager to plan on longevity pay for every employee the City has and proceed on that basis. He did not believe anything would be accomplished by postponing the decision until August.

At 9:00 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council re-convening at 9:05 P. M.

Mrs. David Skoloff, 109 Via Los Altos, told the Council she was anxious to see an overpass across Highway 101 in front of the South High School. The State has approved this. The School Board has had a letter on it, and she believed the City had also had a letter from the State about it.

The City Manager had a copy of the letter, which he read. The letter was addressed to the City Engineer, and said approval of the overpass had been given. Before proceeding with the plans, it will be necessary to be sure the City will assume its share, one-third, of the cost, which will be \$16,333 according to their estimate. The letter requested that the Council indicate how the City would finance their share of this cost so the proper financing can be arranged. The letter was signed by L. R. Gillis, of the State Division of Highways.

Mayor Isen asked Mrs. Sokoloff if the School Board was willing to pay their share of the cost of this overpass, and she said they were.

Mayor Isen asked the City Manager if we would finance our share of this out of our Gas Tax money, and the City Manager replied he thought that was committed, but that this might be reserved out of the Unappropriated Reserve.

Councilman Drale moved the matter be referred to the City Manager for consideration along with other problems, saying the City Manager knew the feeling of the Council about the construction of the overpass.

Councilman Jahn said if this motion meant we would pay our share, he would agree with the motion.

Mayor Isen said the Council was agreed that this should be done.

Councilman Drale amended his motion to state that the Council agreed with this request.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Councilman Benstead asked the cost, and the City Manager said the State has estimated that our share of the cost would be \$16,333.

Councilman Jahn asked if it was not the intent of the Council to pay our share of this if the School Board pays theirs, and Mayor Isen thought the motion should be to pay 1/3 of the cost.

Councilman Drale amended his motion to specify that we would pay our share of one-third of the cost of this overpass if the School Board will go along with their share.

Councilman Beasley accepted the amendment in his second to the motion.

Mrs. Sokoloff said she found by talking to the Engineer that this could be speeded up if the agreement is signed as soon as possible.

Mayor Isen said the City will be as prompt as possible, and suggested she contact the School Board.

Councilman Drale moved the Director of Public Works contact the School Board and arrange for a meeting to discuss this.

Mrs. Sokoloff reported the School Board has assured her they will furnish their share of this money.

Councilman Jahn seconded Councilman Drale's motion.

There were no objections and the motion was ordered carried.

The City Manager spoke briefly to the Council, saying we are holding this Hearing on the General Fund Budget only; we have other budgets as well, and the total budget amounts to about six million dollars. The fund which pays wages and by which the tax rate is set is this general fund. The Charter requires the Council to adopt the tentative budget now, and the rate will be adopted in two months. Even though there is an increase in assessed valuation, those who are responsible for estimating our income must be rather conservative. He thought it would interest the Council to know that our income for this past year has been just 2% over what he had estimated it would be. To adopt the budget with the idea the income would change would be disastrous. However, as of July 1, 1958, we will have to begin working under this new budget, and it should be adopted now. He said present salaries will prevail until some decision is made.

Councilman Jahn asked if the statement made by Mr. Dunmeyer to the Council, that we are spending but \$39 per person in the City, was true.

The City Manager thought the facts were not clearly understood. He had talked to City Manager Hopkins of Redondo Beach about their budget, and though Redondo Beach is spending \$5,000,000 on their harbor, that money is from oil revenues.

Councilman Jahn asked if shooting pay and motor riding pay were included in the Police Department budget.

The City Manager said we have always given motor riding pay, and the budget has been set up to give shooting pay.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Chamber of Commerce fund was included in the budget, and the City Manager said it was, saying there are funds for the National Guard, Music & Advertising, the Mounted Police, etc.

Councilman Jahn moved to close the Second Hearing on the tentative budget for the Fiscal Year 1958-59.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of the Tentative Budget for the Fiscal Year 1958-59.

Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Manager if he was correct in his assumption that under this plan we are lowering the tax rate 1¢, and the City Manager said he was correct.

Councilman Bradford favored leaving the tax rate as it has been, saying the 1¢ reduction means a loss of \$16,000.

Councilman Jahn said his motion was to adopt this tentative budget as it was revised last Monday night, and that included a 1¢ drop in the tax rate.

Mayor Isen pointed out that we do not adopt the tax rate now, and that we will have to raise taxes to meet the employee demands if that is the wish of the Council.

Councilman Drale pointed out that Mr. Stevens's report to the Council sets \$1 for the General Fund and 11¢ for the Library Fund, and asked if the Council would be adopting this too.

The City Manager said it would be necessary to adopt some figures; the tentative budget is based on these.

Councilman Jahn said his motion was based on the revisions of last Monday night.

The City Manager said the Council could not raise the General Fund Tax Rate. He said at the meeting Councilman Jahn referred to, we had deferred some capital improvements and the employment of some needed personnel, thus lowering the tax rate 1¢ and raising the Library Fund rate 1/2¢.

Councilman Jahn said that was his motion.

Councilman Bradford said he had seconded the motion to adopt the budget, but he would like to keep the tax rate unchanged.

Councilman Beasley felt the tax rate could be set when we get the complete figures in August.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for the: Hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 3477 to Vacate a Portion of Block 116, Torrance Tract.  
City Clerk Bartlett presented the Affidavit of Publication and Affidavit of Posting Notices.  
There were no objections, and these were accepted and ordered filed.  
Mayor Isen asked if anyone present wished to be heard.  
There was no reply.  
Councilman Jahn moved to close the Hearing.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, no objections, so ordered.  
City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 992

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
ORDERING THE VACATION OF AN EASEMENT FOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
PURPOSES ON A PORTION OF BLOCK 116 OF THE TORRANCE TRACT  
IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

At this time, Mayor Isen moved that all Resolutions and Ordinances on the Agenda be given their proper number by the City Clerk and that their titles be read at the proper time, and that further reading of them be dispensed with by this motion.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and failed to carry unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Bradford, Drale.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of Ordinance No. 992.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved for approval of Ordinance No. 992 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A June 17, 1958, letter from Del Nadeau, President of the Downtown Merchants Ass'n., Torrance Chamber of Commerce, asked for time on the Agenda.

Mr. Nadeau was present, and came forward to speak to the Council. He gave his address as 3910 Marbor, and his business address as 1321 Sartori in Torrance.

Mr. Nadeau told the Council the Downtown Merchants feel they want to correct the expenditure of funds from the parking meters; those funds must go back to a fund to buy parking lots, he said, meaning all funds over and above the costs of operating and maintaining the meters. He said they are not getting enough back in the fund now to buy more lots, and they believe this is because the meterettes are paid from the money collected from the meters. He said the merchants believe the girls spend only about 2/3 of their time working directly with the meters, and that all funds collected by the court as fines for overparking by the meters should go into the fund.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Attorney for his interpretation of whether such fines could be called income from the meters, and the City Attorney said he would think it was fine money. The City Attorney read Section 17.87 of the Code, which directs that all funds received from the parking meters over and above the costs which were listed shall be deposited in a parking fund for the City and be used for providing off-street parking.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Code specified 'meters', and the City Attorney said it did.

Councilman Jahn said he wanted to do what is right, but he did not think the money collected as fines for overparking should go into the meter fund.

Mr. Nadeau said the merchants feel that as the girls who issue the tickets are paid from the meter money, and issue the tickets because of the meters, the money collected for the tickets should go into the fund.

Councilman Bradford said the purpose of the meters was to be sure that there would be places to park in downtown Torrance.

Mr. Nadeau said the money should go into the meter fund.

Councilman Blount pointed out that the parking meter fund does not pay for the salaries of the others who do this work, nor does it pay for the Court time, or the paper work made necessary by the meters.

Mr. Nadeau said the girls are paid from the fund, and their motors are paid for from the fund.

Councilman Jahn said the girls are there for psychological effect. If someone does overpark and one of the girls issues a ticket, the girl is to issue a parking ticket, thus increasing the turnover of cars at meters. He felt the person who breaks the law and is fined to be in a different category completely than a person who pays for the use of space by putting a nickel in a parking meter.

Mr. Nadeau did not agree. He felt the Code meaning included the money from fines.

Mr. Bradford felt Mr. Nadeau was wrong. He explained the fine is payable to the court.

Councilman Benstead agreed with Councilmen Jahn and Bradford on this. He believed the merchants should have set up their own assessment district for parking lots.

Mr. Nadeau said the merchants need the parking lots and they feel they are entitled to them. The meterettes do other work than checking meter violations, spending about 1/3 of their time on other work. He felt that part of their work should not be paid from the meter funds.

Councilman Beasley felt the whole discussion out of order. He believed the money derived from the meters is City money, and the determination of how it should be spent is a City function.

Mr. Nadeau said the only interest the merchants have in this is to see that the money goes back into the fund and not into the general fund.

In answer to a question, Mayor Isen said the courts keep 16% of the money collected as fines.

Councilman Jahn said he would oppose changing the law; if we save money by having the girls so everyone will put their money into the meters, we should do so.

Councilman Jahn moved that the Council act so not to change the procedure as he believes it now is in the City Code.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

Councilman Drale spoke in support of the merchants, saying he did not believe it would be against the Charter to put the money collected from fines into the fund to buy more parking lots.

Councilman Benstead felt this would not serve any purpose, as he said there are always places to park.

Mr. Nadeau did not agree.

Councilman Jahn added that to buy these lots takes them from the tax rolls, so there are arguments on both sides as to the desirability of buying the lots.

Mayor Isen thought the principal purpose of the parking meters was to keep the traffic moving. All are familiar with the dilemma of our downtown merchants. He felt this was a matter of whether the Council wants the money from fines to go into the fund or be used for expenses. He was also familiar with the fact that the girls do not



spend all their time working on the meters, and he felt the Fund was being penalized by having to pay all three girls all their salaries, when actually only the full time of two of the girls is used.

Councilman Bradford asked if it were true that the three girls spent only 2/3 of their time working on the meters, and Mayor Isen said Chief Bennett had given that figure in a talk at a meeting recently.

Councilman Beasley asked who authorized the expenditure of the parking meter funds, and the City Manager said the Council did.

Mayor Isen asked who had authorized the employment of the meterettes, and Mr. Stevens said he thought the Council had.

Councilman Bradford asked how much money is involved in the fines every month, and the City Manager thought the City received about \$800.00.

Councilman Blount asked if this was only from the meters, and Mayor Isen said it was.

Mr. Sam Levy, speaking for the merchants, said before the girls were hired the meters showed an income running from \$1,000 to \$1,500 a month and when the fund was large enough it was used to buy parking space. Now the girls have been hired and the fund is depleted and is not building up again.

Councilman Blount pointed out that we are paying for two lots bought with the money in the fund. He felt the entire responsibility for furnishing the parking lots should not rest with the City.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Jahn. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

2. A June 11, 1958, letter from the Markel Service, Inc., signed by G. A. Schuberg of the Underwriting Dept., directed to the Lund Co., 2367 Torrance Blvd., concerned the City's insurance for the bus lines. The letter stated that the rate must be increased 25% effective July 1, 1958, due to the loss ratio.

The City Manager said this company has cut our premium five times during the 13 years they have carried our insurance. He pointed out that rates throughout the state had gone up 20.8% this year, and so this is comparatively a small increase. The City Manager felt the City should continue to carry this insurance.

Councilman Jahn asked if the drivers who have had a large number of accidents during the past year are still driving for the City.

The City Manager did not know, but said the insurance carrier would have something to say about that.

Councilman Jahn thought that perhaps drivers who had a large number of accidents should be transferred to other jobs.

Mayor Isen pointed out that some of the claims had been settled without payment, indicated the drivers were blameless in those cases.

The City Manager said we had made a thorough check recently and had found one driver at least who had to be moved to some other work.

R. K. Rogers, Administrative Assistant, said we are now making extensive tests; we have eliminated one driver, and may eliminate another. He expressed his willingness to check the list the Council had even further if they wished him to do so.

The City Manager felt we would be wise to retain this insurance.

Councilman Benstead thought this should go to bid.

Councilman Jahn moved to accept this offer from the Markel Company and extend our present insurance policy.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount.

Councilman Drale did not favor that.

The City Manager explained that July 1 is the beginning of our policy year, and our present policy will expire that day.

Councilman Jahn thought we might lose money by going to bid on this.

Councilman Benstead did not agree.

Motion failed by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN:



Blount, Jahn. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Bradford, Drale, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Beasley did not think we had time to call for bids.

Mayor Isen felt we could be sure of getting a 30-day extension. He pointed out that the premium for the last year had been \$14,000 and the company had paid out \$10,000 in claims.

Councilman Benstead felt they should have given us notice of this earlier so we could have called for bids.

The City Manager said he did not know how to call for bids on this type of insurance; he felt we must have insurance by July 1 or close the bus system. He explained we had a right to cancel the insurance if we wished.

Councilman Beasley said next year we should have 60 days' notice of the expiration date of the policy.

Councilman Drale moved to call for bids for this insurance for the next fiscal year, and that the City Manager negotiate the extension of our present contract from July 1 to the time the bids are awarded.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Jahn. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jahn asked to have a record kept to show the Council the exact result of this action.

3. A June 13, 1958, letter from Ruth E. and Jack W. Harford, 12601 Wright Road, Compton, requested a refund of an unused license fee in the amount of \$236.25 for a trailer park license. The license was never issued.

A June 18 letter from Gale Whitacre, License Inspector, addressed to the City Manager, recommended refunding of this fee, but that a fee of possibly \$25 or \$30 be retained for expenses incurred making various inspections of the property. Mr. Whitacre submitted a copy of a June 9, 1958, letter from J. J. McKinnon, the Asst. Supt. of Bldg., listing corrections necessary at the trailer park location.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the License Inspector.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 10:00 P. M., the Mayor declared a recess, with the Council re-convening at 10:10 P. M.

4. A June 16, 1958, letter from Theo Linhart, Jr., 4801 Via el Sereno, requested that the access road between Lots No. 51 and 52 be closed permanently, and submitted a petition signed by the owners of 10 neighboring lots.

Mr. Linhart came forward to answer questions.

Mayor Isen asked the City Engineer if the access road in question had been a cul de sac. Mr. Bishop said it had been and still is.

The City Engineer explained that the land across this cul de sac is not part of this subdivision. It provides access to the land outside the tract. It was graded, but was never approved or accepted by the City.

Planning Director Powell presented a map to the Council showing the area. He said the Planning Commission had created the three lots provided access was arranged. The street has never been dedicated to the City. An easement has never been accepted for it.

Mr. Linhart felt the road was necessary for service to Lots 1, 2, and 3.

Councilman Beasley said the road is there; it is 27' wide and has been blacktopped. The lots are graded. He did not see what action the Council could take on this, but Mayor Isen explained we could close the road.

Mr. Linhart said the signers of the petition want it closed. He said there could be access to the lots from the Paseo de las Tortugas end of the road.

City Engineer Bishop said that is a drainage easement and we have the drainage rights and we can prevent vehicle traffic.

Mr. Linhart said he does not want the traffic passing his house there; he had bought on a cul de sac to avoid that, as had his neighbors. He asked if the City maintained private roads and provided collection of rubbish on them.

The Mayor said we would have the right to use the private road with permission of the owner.

Mr. Linhart said during the rainy season the road had been a great inconvenience.

Councilman Jahn pointed out that if the City had not accepted the road as a public street, it is the liability and responsibility of the owner.

Councilman Beasley said it would be quite a problem, as the City has no control.

Mayor Isen referred to the petition, and asked who had put the cable up blocking that street as described in the petition.

The City Engineer was able to answer, saying the cable had been put up by the City to keep vehicle traffic off the drainage easement.

Mr. Linhart said the access road had been blocked for over a year, and has just been opened for trucks at the El Sereno end.

Councilman Beasley asked about the end lots, but Mr. Linhart said there is no house there.

In response to a question from Councilman Jahn, the City Attorney said he did not know of any way we could prevent the owner of a lot from letting traffic cross his lot if he wished to do so.

Bldg. Supt. Schlens said under the Building Code he could not issue a permit to build on property which does not front on a public way.

Councilman Beasley said he had been told permits had been issued today for these lots.

Mr. Schlens said the permits had been issued today for Tract 23558.

Mayor Isen told the Bldg. Supt. to check on this to be sure.

Bldg. Supt. Schlens said if the permits had been issued, he would have to stop them as that is the code requirement. He would not issue the permits.

Mr. Linhart asked the definition of a public way.

Councilman Beasley moved to refer this whole matter to the Building Department and the Engineering Department for study and recommendation.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

Mr. Linhart asked if it would be possible to request that the road be closed until there is an answer from those Departments, saying the road is a hazard.

The City Attorney did not know how we could close a private road unless we find it is a public nuisance and dangerous.

Mr. Linhart suggested it be closed again, and asked when the findings of the Building and Engineering Departments would be here.

Mayor Isen told him to check with Messrs. Bishop and Schlens to get the information, and said they would consult with the City Attorney on this.

5. A June 11, 1958, letter from Victor Jones, Chairman of the Conference Planning Committee, reported that a Conference would be held at the University of California at Berkeley on THE PROBLEM OF ORGANIZING FOR SERVICES AND FUNCTIONS IN METROPOLITAN AREAS. This will be held July 24-25, 1958, and invited members of our City government to attend.

There were no objections, and the letter was ordered filed.

6. A June 16, 1958, letter from property owners on Carol Drive requested the Council to direct the Engineering Dept. to survey and prepare plans and specifications for sewers on their street. They have decided to contract the work themselves, but ask this help from the City.

Councilman Beasley moved to grant the request.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Benstead asked if they would pay for the engineering work.

Mayor Isen asked if we do not have a policy on this, saying they want to do their own contracting.

The City Manager thought that normally the Engineering Dept. would help on a very small sewer like this.

Councilman Benstead asked if they would pay for the sewers.

The City Manager said yes; he said this might cost the City about \$150 for the engineering service.

There were no objections, and the motion was ordered carried.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

1. A June 19, 1958, letter from the City Manager was accompanied by his analysis of bids for petroleum products. It was recommended that the low bidder be awarded the bid except in cases where a change was recommended due to requirements of the Bus Supt. regarding availability of service or quality standards.

The City Manager read his recommendations as follows:

Regular Gasoline bid to Shell Oil Co.; Truck deliveries, .17; Truck and Trailer deliveries, .1676.

Premium Gasoline bid to Shell Oil Co.; Truck deliveries, .1965; Truck and Trailer deliveries, .1941.

Automotive Diesel Fuel #1 to Shell Oil Co.; Truck & Trailer, .1077.

(In this case, the low bidder was Century Oil Co., but the fuel furnished by Shell is thought to be more suitable for use in the engines we have).

Motor Oil, Tidewater Associated, .61.

Diesel Oil #2, Union Oil, .10. (In this case, Pathfinder was the low bidder, and the Union bid was recommended upon the advise of our Street Supt.

Bitumuls R. S. 1, American Bitumuls, .1325.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendations of the City Manager upon the award of these bids.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Blount commented we had trouble once in the past with diesel fuel, and Hancock had come up with an oil which we have found to be most satisfactory. If this bid goes to Tidewater Associated, Councilman Blount requested that Mr. Chamberlain be requested to keep very accurate checks on it to be sure it is the best.

The City Manager reported that other cities had found their product very satisfactory.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. A June 19, 1958, letter from the City Manager submitted to the Council for information and approval a copy of the job description for Director of Public Works.

Councilman Benstead said he would like to hold this for a week for further study.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

3. In a June 19, 1958, letter, the City Manager submitted to the Council the following recommendations for consideration and approval:

PERSONNEL:

Recruitment bulletins are being prepared for the position of Assistant City Attorney. It is proposed that the salary range be from \$400 to \$700 per month, depending upon the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate.

APPROPRIATIONS:

For the purchase of one Model 75-85-54 Victor Automatic Printing Calculator, the sum of \$594.36, including tax. (Copy of request dated 6/18/58 from M. A. Chamberlain, Bus Supt., attached for Council perusal).

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

1. That the following sums be transferred from the General Fund to the Funds indicated:

<u>SUM</u>	<u>FUND</u>
\$50,000-----	Airport Fund
\$25,000-----	Library Fund
\$20,000-----	Parking Meter Fund
\$40,000-----	County Aid to Cities
\$60,000-----	Special Gas Tax
\$13,000-----	Park & Recreation Fee Fund.

2. That \$25,000 be transferred from the General Fund to the Street Lighting Fund on a loan basis.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendations of the City Manager under Personnel, Appropriations, and Transfer of Funds. Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY CLERK:

1. A June 12, 1958, letter from City Clerk Bartlett requested authorization to record the tax deed on two parcels of tax-delinquent property in Agreement No. 1072 with the County of Los Angeles and the State. The acceptance of the Tax Deed by the City Clerk is approved by both the City Attorney and City Manager.

Councilman Benstead moved to authorize the City Clerk to record the tax deed as requested.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objections, so ordered.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

1. A June 9, 1958, letter from Rubbercraft Corp. of California, 2005 Border Avenue, requested permission to erect an advertising sign 245 sq. ft. in size at their property.

Bldg. Supt. Schlens presented each of the Councilmen with a sketch of the proposed sign. He said the property is in an M-1 zone.

Mayor Isen asked if there were any question about the placement being a hazard to traffic.

Mr. Schlens said no; that it had the approval of the Chief of Police.

Councilman Jahn asked if the information on the sign was correct, and Councilman Bradford said their office had been here for several years.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with this request.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, and failed by the following roll

call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Drale, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Bradford, Jahn. ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jahn said he thought this would be too big a sign. Councilman Blount changed his vote to "No".

2. A June 17, 1958, letter from the Rich Sign & Neon Co., signed by J. W. Rich, resubmitted their application for a sign for the Crenshaw Market at 16635 Crenshaw Blvd. The letter stated the footage of the sign had been reduced as much as possible, and the sign has been planned to be next to the building instead of close to the street as first proposed.

A memo from Bldg. Supt. Schlens reported the dimensions and location of the sign have been revised; this is still over 42 sq. Ft. and so requires Council approval.

Bldg. Supt. Schlens said the sign was originally much larger than this. The man from the sign company was here to talk to the Council about this. The sign is now 5'6" x 35' long, and against the side of the market on steel posts.

The representative of the sign company pointed out the changes made in the sign as originally proposed.

Councilman Jahn asked if his request for a new Ordinance to prevent all these queries coming to the Council had been fulfilled, and the City Attorney said not yet.

Mr. Schlens said he has not been able to meet with the City Attorney during the past week.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the request and let them put up this sign.

Councilman Jahn said it was too large.

The sign company representative said every effort has been made to make this an attractive, safe sign to help advertise the small market there. All the improvements have been put in. The building is a large one. He said the sign would not look large when it is put up.

Councilman Beasley seconded the motion.

Mayor Isen said the requirement for improvements had nothing to do with this sign application.

Motion failed by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Drale, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Jahn. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The sign company representative told the Council of the need of this business man for a sign, which will let the passing traffic know about his market.

Mayor Isen agreed; it was his opinion that billboards be controlled, but it had never been his intention to discriminate against local business.

Councilman Blount asked if the Mayor would agree to amend the sign ordinance size specification of 42 sq. ft.

Mayor Isen moved that pending the adoption of a new ordinance, the 42 sq. ft. requirement be dropped from our present sign ordinance, but in the meantime until the new ordinance is adopted, all petitions shall come before the Council for signs over that size. He said this motion is about signs connected with established businesses in Torrance.

Councilman Benstead asked what size this means, and Mayor Isen said the Council could rely on Mr. Schlens.

Mr. Schlens outlined the requirements of the ordinance he is working on, and Councilman Jahn thought it sounded like an excellent ordinance.

Mr. Schlens said the formula he is using is one square foot of sign for each linear foot of lot frontage; if a sign exceeds that but does not exceed 80 sq. ft., but if it exceeds this formula, it will go to the Planning Commission. If it exceeds 80 sq. ft., it will come to the Council for approval. Mr. Schlens said this sign



almost fits the formula, but exceeds 80 sq. ft.

Councilman Blount moved that the formula given by Mr. Schlens be made an amendment to and substituted for the square footage permitted by our present sign ordinance.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount, pending passage of the new Ordinance, said that inasmuch as this application from the Crenshaw Market could be granted this sign under the amendment just adopted, moved to give him permission to erect this sign as shown in his exhibit here.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Bradford, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn asked the Building Superintendent if he had letter from the people who have had sign application refused because they were over the size allowed and whether he would notify them of this change.

Mr. Schlens said he would try to notify those which come under the formula; he pointed out that the sign area would be dependent upon the individual stores.

In reply to a question, the City Attorney replied that the Council had obviously amended the ordinance we now have.

3. A June 18, 1958, letter from B. D. Moulton, 1613 So. Pacific Coast Highway, Redondo Beach, contained a request for a refund for an unused Relocation Permit, Receipts #15571 and #4674.

Mr. Schlens said the relocation had been stopped before any inspection was made.

Councilman Drale moved to refund the fees to Mr. Moulton.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Councilman Benstead thought the motion should allow for the expenses of the City in this matter to be retained.

Mr. Schlens said the usual refund in such cases is 80%.

Councilman Drale amended his motion to allow for the necessary costs to be retained from this money.

Amendment was accepted in the second to the motion, which motion, as amended, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

1. FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 24330. Transmittal form from Engineering Department submitting for approval Final Tract Map No. 24330, presented by Chacksfield Realty Co., located southerly of 186th St., easterly of Gramercy Place, and northerly of proposed San Diego Freeway, and containing 38 lots. Attached to the Letter of Transmittal were:

- a. Excerpt from Planning Commission Minutes of May 7, 1958;
- b. A June 12, 1958, letter from G. E. Chacksfield concerning the sewers in this tract;
- c. Letter from J. R. Patrick, Asst. to City Engr., dated May 6, 1958, saying all necessary street dedications here are being made and that the final map substantially conforms with that as approved as the tentative map;
- d. May 6, 1958, letter from R. W. Bishop, City Engr., concerning a possible special sewer connection fee for this tract;
- e. May 1, 1958, letter from Sou. Calif. Edison Co., signed by J. W. Kessler, agreeing to pole this tract on the rear or side property lines;
- f. March 13, 1958, letter from W. J. Manetta, L. A. County Flood Control District, stated this tract was reasonably free from flood hazard providing the lots are graded to drain to the streets;
- g. Feb. 26, 1958, letter from State Divn. of Highways, by A. L. Himel-hoch, approving the map of the tract.
- h. Location sketch of this tract.

Mayor Isen asked if the City had received the 1' dedication, but City Engineer Bishop said he was not sure.

Councilman Jahn asked if the sewer fee has been paid, and the City Engineer said he had not, and that the letter dated June 12 states his position on it.

Councilman Jahn moved to hold this over until the subdivider complies with the dedication for street purposes and pays the sewer fees.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount.

Mr. Jack Steinberg, 328 - 4th St., Manhattan Beach, representing the petitioner, came forward. He said they had been waiting for a letter of interpretation from the City Attorney on whether they should pay the sewer fee.

The City Attorney said he had told Mr. Chacksfield today that this should be paid.

There were no objections to the motion, and it was so ordered.

2. A June 18, 1958, letter from John R. Patrick, Asst. to City Engineer Bishop, submitted two easement deeds as follows:

- 1) Easement Deed dated June 17, 1958, from Christina Drale;
- 2) Easement Deed dated June 17, 1958, from Obrien Z. Drale and Christina Drale.

The letter stated the two easements are needed for the widening of Redondo Beach Blvd. as shown on the attached sketch, and are in the La Fresa Tract and a portion of Tract No. 2248. They had been approved by the City Attorney and City Manager.

Councilman Jahn moved these be accepted and recorded.

Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, no objections, so ordered.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. Transmittal form from Planning Commission recommending approval of request of John Howard for a Variance to construct a Mobile Park between Crenshaw and Pennsylvania, situated at Moreton St., and legally described as Lots 6 through 18, inclusive, Tract 23327. (CASE NO. 511). A location sketch was submitted with this, as was an excerpt from the June 4, 1958, Planning Commission Minutes.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

The City Attorney asked if this was a legal subdivision so we have the streets, and Planning Director Powell replied that it is. He presented a map showing the legally dedicated streets.

Councilman Blount said this had been annexed as an industrial tract; he pointed out there are two buildings there and a trailer park.

Planning Director Powell said six lots just south of the bowling alley are being developed for M-1 use.

Mayor Isen asked what is north of Moreton Street, and Mr. Powell said the land there is in the County.

Mayor Isen asked what restrictions they would have had in the County, and Mr. Powell said about the same restrictions. Some permits had been issued to Mr. Howard while this was in the County.

License Inspector Whitacre said our license fee for trailer parks is \$7.50 per year per space, and that it is the highest in the County.

Councilman Jahn asked if we did not have special fees for rubbish collection in trailer parks, and the City Manager said we do.

Mr. Powell reported that it is possible some of the trailer spaces would be eliminated for industrial building.

Councilman Jahn moved to amend his motion to include the stipulations of the Planning Commission, and Mayor Isen said his second to the motion included them.

Mr. Bob Flattery, a partner in this development, said they had originally had 6 lots on the north side and 4 lots to the east; they intend to develop them with either two or four buildings, and may cut the trailer spaces to 49.

Mr. Powell thought they had stated they were willing to eliminate Lots 6, 7, 8, and 9.

Mayor Isen asked if it is zoned M-1 now, and this was discussed.

Councilman Jahn amended his motion to exclude Lots 6, 7, 8, and 9, making it include Lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

Mayor Isen accepted the amendment in his second to the motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MATTERS:

1. A June 17, 1958, letter from the Park & Recreation Commission, signed by Lawrence A. Gitschier, contained that Commission's recommendation that the City Council permit free swims on Saturday mornings to the children of Torrance for the 1958 summer vacation period.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the Park & Recreation Commission.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. A June 17, 1958, letter from the Park & Recreation Commission, signed by Lawrence A. Gitschier, contained the Commission's recommendation that a full-time maintenance man be employed to work at the plunge.

Councilman Beasley moved to refer this recommendation to the City Manager.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered.

At 11:00 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 11:15 P. M.

3. A June 17, 1958, letter from the Park & Recreation Commission contained their request that the Mayor and City Council proclaim the month of July as RECREATION MONTH in the City of Torrance.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen proclaimed the month of July, 1958, as Recreation Month in the City of Torrance.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY:

1. A June 20, 1958, letter from the City Attorney contained his request that the City Council authorize a dismissal of the City's condemnation action against Moneta Water Co. in Superior Case No. 646880. The letter stated that the City Attorney and James M. Hall were agreed that it is preferable to litigate the claim of title in the declaratory relief action rather than in the condemnation suit.

The City Attorney discussed this at some length with the Council, explaining that he and Mr. Hall believe this would be the better way to handle this matter. He explained that the new attorneys for the Moneta Water Co. have now taken this matter over.

Councilman Jahn asked why this had not been settled before, and what our costs had been on it.

Mayor Isen asked for a report next week on what we will owe Mr. Hall on this.

Councilman Jahn asked why we had not gone ahead with the suit when the Council had ordered it, and why it was not followed through. He asked for a report on this.

The City Attorney said the declaratory relief action was to determine title that Moneta held or claimed to hold on certain lands. It might be determined from this or a condemnation suit.

Councilman Drale asked the City Attorney for his recommendation.

The City Attorney recommended that the Council authorize Mr. Hall to dismiss the condemnation suit.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Attorney.

Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale agreed with Mayor Isen that the Council should have a statement from Mr. Hall, itemized to show how much the City owes him.

The City Attorney asked if this statement should cover all litigation, and was told that it should.

The City Attorney said he had requested such a statement, and hoped to have it here at the next meeting.

#### RESOLUTIONS:

1. A June 11, 1958, letter from the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, signed by Arthur G. Will, County-City Coordinator for L. S. Hollinger, Chief Administrative Officer, submitted a revised agreement for health services.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 3491

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES RENDERED BY SAID COUNTY.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3491.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 3492

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND PAUL'S CHEVROLET, INC., TO LEASE CERTAIN CHEVROLET AUTOMOBILES FOR USE BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL PURPOSES.

Councilman Beasley moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Beasley moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3492.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Benstead asked if the City Manager had not determined it would be cheaper to buy than to rent these cars, and the City Manager said the report had been submitted to the Council. It had been thought we would probably not lease again after this year.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3493

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND ANDERSON STRUCTURAL STEEL CO., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF T-HANGARS ON THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount asked why there had been the long delay in this matter, saying this had been authorized last October.

The City Manager recounted the history of this matter, saying there had been many factors which caused the delay.

Councilman Blount asked if we had any assurance that these buildings would now be built.

The City Manager said we would not pay them until the buildings are up and we are sure the liens were off them.

Councilman Jahn asked if these plans come up to our specs, and Bldg. Supt. Schlens said they do.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3493.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3494

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT WITH HARBOR HOMES INCORPORATED, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, TO PROVIDE A REFUND FOR THE INSTALLATION OF WATER MAINS IN TRACT NO. 17024.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale asked whether it had been the policy to refund on water mains, and the City Attorney said we had refused to pay this about a year ago when it first came up, because there were two people to whom it might have been paid. He had determined that the firm entitled to the refund was Harbor Homes, and we now have a release from Coral Homes, the other claimant.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3494.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Jahn, and Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

5. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3495

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND NECESSITY REQUIRE THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETION BY THE SAID CITY OF TORRANCE OF CERTAIN PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS,



TO WIT: THE CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION AND WIDENING OF A PUBLIC STREET OVER AND ACROSS THOSE CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE: AND AND DIRECTING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO BRING AND PROSECUTE IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE CONDEMNATION THEREOF.

The City Attorney said this is the land owned by Pearl Grady at Crenshaw and Redondo Beach Blvd.; the lessee of the land, Mr. Lou Levy, has agreed to pay the City the cost of the acquisition by the City up to but not to exceed \$2500.00. The City Attorney said an appraiser had given him a provisional appraisal of the land at about \$2,000.00. He explained we would have to buy only Mrs. Grady's interest, because the lessee and the sub-lessee would give us their interest in it. He said he did not know the value of their interests, nor could he determine it. This is just to acquire the 150' on Crenshaw.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen asked Mr. Adelman's attorney, who was present, whether it was possible, if this works out and the original action is dismissed, each party will bear their own costs, and Mr. Adelman's attorney said they would bear the extra cost if necessary for the City.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3495.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen said it could be assumed that as soon as the settlement is reach we will reconsider the application for a Variance at that location.

6. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 3496

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THAT WEEDS GROWING UPON AND IN FRONT OF, AND RUBBISH, REFUSE AND DIRT UPON AND IN FRONT OF CERTAIN PRIVATE PROPERTY IN THE CITY TO BE A PUBLIC NUISANCE, AND DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ABATEMENT THEREOF.

The City Attorney requested that the time shown in line 1 of Section 4 be changed to '8:00 P. M.'.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3496 as corrected.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### ORDINANCES:

1. A June 20 letter from City Clerk Bartlett submitted for its second reading Ordinance 991, which was unanimously approved at the time of its first reading on June 17, with all Councilmen present.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 991

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 9.19 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" SETTING FORTH ELECTRICAL PERMIT FEES AND SUBSTITUTING A NEW SECTION 9.19 RELATING TO THE SAME MATTER.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 991 at its second and final reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. A June 2, 1958, letter from the City Attorney re-submitted the off-street parking ordinance to the Council.

The letter from the City Attorney contained a suggestion from him and Bldg. Supt. Schlens as an alternative to subsection 4 if the Council desires it.

Councilman Jahn preferred the Ordinance as it was submitted.

Planning Director Powell told the Council the Planning Commission requested that the Council eliminate the word 'carport' under Paragraph D, so any applications to build carports will come to the Commission for consideration.

There were no objections and that change was ordered.

Councilman Drale asked where we had arrived at the ratio of one-to-one, and Planning Director Powell said it was a standard used by many cities.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 993

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SUBSECTION "I" OF SECTION 15 OF APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", ENTITLED "PROVISIONS FOR OFF-STREET PARKING", SUBSTITUTING A NEW SUBSECTION THEREFOR RELATING TO THE SAME SUBJECT AND ESTABLISHING PROVISIONS FOR LOADING SPACE.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for approval of Ordinance No. 993 at its first reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. City Clerk Bartlett read title to the following Urgency Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 994

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 17.35 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 994 at its first and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. City Clerk Bartlett read title to the following Urgency Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 995

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 17.35 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Jahn asked that under 1 (b) the reading be changed to include southbound traffic as well as northbound.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 995 at its first and final reading, with the change he requested.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Drale, Bradford, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Beasley went on record as opposing the 'lantern' type of traffic signal.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Jahn commented that he had requested a copy of the Bakersfield Ordinance concerning the conduct of meetings, and it is on the agenda tonight for information. He thought this was very good but not adaptable to our use as it is.

Mayor Isen did not believe it would provide for anything we do not already have.

The City Attorney reported he had been collecting ordinances on this matter from various parts of the country, and the Council would soon receive a massive ordinance on it for their study.

City Manager Stevens reminded the Council it had been agreed that when they received traffic control ordinances such as they have just passed, the dollar cost of each item was to be shown; he felt this agreement should be kept.

Councilman Jahn agreed, and said he knew the Traffic Commission had intended the installation of the controls when the money is available for them.

Councilman Benstead reported that Association Membership Dues in the Shoreline Planning Association of California are due, and he moved that they be paid in the amount of \$50 for the fiscal year of July 1, 1958, to June 30, 1959.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Blount asked to hear the people present from Porto Bello Drive about a drainage situation which has developed near their homes.

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Mr. Wade Johnson of 4749 Porto Bello Drive, took issue with a report dated June 20 from City Engineer Bishop. In the Report, Mr. Bishop had said he had made an inspection of the problem on Porto Bello Drive and that the water has dried up from Porto Bello Drive and Grand Summit Road, and that he had inspected the area near Lot 47 and the water had dried up there, too. Mr. Johnson said it had not dried up and the water is still there. He believed members of the City Council had inspected it since June 20, and had seen the water. He said there is a crack in his lot 40' long and from 2 to 10' deep and several inches wide, which he believed had been caused by the water. He invited the Councilmen to come up and see his house and the damage which has been done.

Mayor Isen asked for Mr. Johnson's telephone number, and Mr. Johnson said his number is DA 6-7625, and Mr. Berwanger's is DA 6-7240.

Mr. Johnson said the report from the City Engineer is wrong.

Mayor Isen asked the City Engineer who had inspected this, and Mr. Bishop said he had gone up there with Messrs. Russell and Schlens.

Councilman Bradford said he had gone out and looked at that, and he had seen the problem there.

Councilman Beasley felt the report was incorrect, and suggested that the City Manager call a conference and make an inspection of the area and see what can be done.

Mayor Isen asked what can be done to correct this without the assumption of responsibility for it by the City.

The City Engineer said with the approval of the County Sanitation District, the seepage at Lot 18 could be piped into the sewer. He thought that would just about stop the whole thing.

Mayor Isen asked about the cave-ins which have gone on.

The City Engineer said he thought the bank could be repaired for about \$2,000.00.

Mayor Isen asked if it would not be possible to take care of this to stop the problem by getting permission to do so without assumption of responsibility.

The City Engineer thought we could.

Mayor Isen directed that the record show there is no assumption of liability or responsibility by the City in this.

Councilman Jahn agreed we should go and look at this, but he felt the most important man in the whole thing is Converse, and that someone from that company should go along.

Councilman Benstead suggested the City Manager request them to send someone down to go out there with the group who go to inspect the problem.

Councilman Jahn moved to continue this Council meeting after 12:00 M.

Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, and it was so ordered.

Mr. W. Groen of 4750 Grand Summit Road, said the ground under his house is very wet. He reported that his wife had been at home when the engineers were out there and said it was dry, but she said they had not gone under the house.

Mayor Isen directed the City Manager to try to call a meeting of a representative of Converse, City officials, members of the Council, and interested residents at about 4:30 P. M. on Thursday to inspect the area.

Councilman Bradford told of inspecting the dirt on some of the lots there and finding it very sandy and loose.

The City Attorney said there had been an ordinance requiring compaction at the time the fill was put in there.

The City Engineer described the methods of testing compaction, and said Converse had tested the compaction. We have records of the tests, and they were all over 90% compaction.

Councilman Beasley asked if a ditch filled with coarse gravel might not solve the drainage problem.

The City Engineer did not agree that this would solve the many problems there.

Councilman Bradford said the fence around the City's reservoir is being carried away by the land slide.

This matter was discussed in connection with the drainage problems.

Mr. Bishop said he had contacted the Converse people and had inspected the area with an engineer from there some time ago. He said there was a report from them, but he did not think it very specific.

Andrew Fechety, 2765 Lofty View Drive, said he had dug a hole behind his garage and about 2' below the top of his land there had been water.

Mayor Isen asked if we might hire an expert to go over this and tell us what it is all about, and Councilman Jahn asked if we might not be able to get a registered soil engineer to make us up a report on it for about a hundred dollars.

The City Manager did not think we could get anyone for that amount of money. He believed any reputable man would want to be very careful about reporting on it.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Engineer to see about how much this would cost and report to the Council.

The Mayor asked the City Manager for a suggestion on this, but the City Manager said he did not know the answer.

Mayor Isen directed the City Manager to arrange the meeting discussed earlier for Monday evening at 5:00 P. M., and told the residents if they wished to do so they might attend the Council meeting next Tuesday at 5:30 P. M. to see if anything has been discovered to help them.

Councilman Drale moved to reconsider the motion made and carried at the last meeting of the Council to pay members of the City's Commissions. He said he wished to vote differently on it than he had done.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At the request of Councilman Drale, the motion was read.

Motion failed by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Beasley asked the City Attorney if this would have an effect on the Planning Commission, and the City Attorney said the status quo would be preserved.

Councilman Jahn asked for a report from the Department Heads on work ordered by the Council from each of them which has not been done.

Mr. Walter Gore, 4002 Bluff St., presented a petition bearing 18 signatures asking that the Council make an effort to help them get their drainage problems resolved and to get the builder and/or developer to see that the drainage there is corrected. Mr. Gore described the problems the hilly terrain there has caused with the ineffective drainage which exists.

The City Engineer explained that the land there had been subdivided in 1927, and that we had no control over it. About 85% of the work has been done, but we have nothing to work with. He has simply been calling this person who has been doing the work and asking him to do it, and little by little it has been done.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Grading Ordinance would not prevail here, and the City Engineer said no.

Councilman Bradford discussed the difference between this case and the Kissel Tract nearby with the City Engineer.



Mr. Gore professed to have a copy of a letter from the City Engineer to one of the sub-dividers of his tract, Mr. Dudley Gray, regarding a bond on the tract.

The City Engineer said we are holding \$500 of Mr. Gray's money on another matter.

Mayor Isen asked how much money it would take to do the 15% of this work which the City Engineer said still needed to be done, and the City Engineer estimated it would be at least a thousand dollars.

Mr. William Neal, 4010 Bluff, said he had been told it had only cost about \$1000 to do what has already been done.

The City Engineer said what has not been done would be more expensive.

Mr. Gore thought a bulldozer could finish the work in one day. He said the water now seems to drain away from the drainage pipe.

P. F. Stevens, 4070 Bluff, said Mr. Pete James has been the person they have talked to and who has done the work. He said that his back yard has been filled with dirt time after time this past winter, and if the drainage is not corrected it will happen again this year.

Councilman Jahn said all the Council could do would be direct the City Manager to withhold payment of Mr. Gray's money we are holding until the corrections ordered by the City Engineer have been made, and he so moved.

Councilman Bradford seconded the motion.

Mr. Gore filed the petition he had with the City Clerk.

Mayor Isen asked who the developers of this land were, and the City Engineer said they were Dudley Gray and Pete James.

The City Engineer said there are several vacant lots there which he thought were the property of El Dorado Estates. So far as he knew, these men are not building anything in the City of Torrance at this time.

After further discussion, Bldg. Supt. Schlens said he thought the only recourse these people might have would be to call on the State Contractors' Board.

City Engineer Bishop said he had done that, and said he had looked at the property last Monday. He had tried at that time to get Mr. James to finish the grading according to the engineered plans. Mr. Bishop said he knew what should be done there, but he could not make them do it.

Councilman Benstead moved to refer this to the City Attorney.

The Mayor asked if the City Manager could suggest a solution.

City Manager Stevens said we have \$500 of their money; we might give them written notice that if the problem is not corrected within a certain period of time, we will keep the money and use it to fix the lot.

Mayor Isen directed that the City Engineer notify Mr. Gray as suggested by the City Manager.

Mr. Crio Guajardo, 4074 Bluff, said he had the same problems on his property.

Mayor Isen explained to the people that the Council hopes to be able to help them.

The City Manager said we might have to rent the equipment to do the work.

Mayor Isen directed the City Engineer to get in touch with the head of the State Contractors' Board about this.

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 A. M.

*A. H. Bartlett*

A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk of the City of  
Torrance, California

APPROVED:

-25-

June 24, 1958  
Council Minutes

*Robert Isen*  
Mayor of the City of Torrance